

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 12 and 24 have been canceled and the limitations of those allowable claims added to respective claims 11 and 23. New claims 25-27 include the allowable limitations of original claims 15-17 rewritten in independent form. New claim 28 includes the allowable limitations of original claim 18. Claims 1, 3-11 and 13-28 are pending in the application.

Objections

The drawings were objected to for failing to show reference numbers 18 and 20, which reference numbers are described in the present specification. Figure 2 has been amended to include reference numbers 18 and 20.

§ 102 Rejection

Claims 11, 16, 19 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Thieulin (US 2,093,218). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, in an effort to expedite issuance of the present application, Applicants have amended independent claims 11 and 23 to include the allowable subject matter of respective claims 12 and 24. Claims 16 and 19 should be allowable for at least the reason they are dependent upon an allowable base claim. Applicants do not concede the correctness of this rejection.

New Claims

As noted above, new claims 25-28 have been added and include the limitations of allowable claims 15-18. Consideration and allowance of the new claims is respectfully requested.

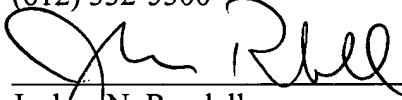
In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Date:March 22, 2005

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300



Joshua N. Randall
Reg. No. 50,719
JNR:ae